METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY M E D I C A L E X A M I N E R D E P A R T M E N T NUMBER 1 ON BOB HOPE RD MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136 (305) 545-9400 INVESTIGATION REPORT

M.E. CASE NO. 88-2637 A DATE SEP/07/88

JOHNSON, LINDA DARNELL (REMAINS, UNKNOWN)

32 BLACK FEMALE DOB MAY/02/56

2100 N W 179TH ST., MIAMI, FLA

PLACE OF DEATH: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA

TIME OF DEATH: FOUND 12:15PM SEP/07/88

INVESTIGATING AGENCY: METRO #458867-I-MCDERMOTT

INCIDENT LOCATION: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA

AUG/00/88 UNK SCENE M.E. CHARLES V. WETLI MD

HISTORY:

CVW

ACCORDING TO INITIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION: ON SEPT. 7,1988 ABT. 12:15FM A RESIDENT OF THE AREA WAS TAKING A SHORTCUT ACROSS A FIELD IN THE REAR OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, AT WHICH TIME HE DISCOVERED THHHE DECEASED NEAR A ROW OF TREES IN THE NORTHH EAST SECTION OF THE FIELD, USED AS THE SCHOOL AGRICULTURE CENTER. SHE WAS IN ADVANCED STAGES OF DECOMPOSITION AND HAD NO IDENTIFICATION HER PERSON WHEN FOUND.

THE DECEASED WAS IDENTIFIED BY FINGERPRINTS ON FILE WITH METRO-DADE POL-ICE DEPARTMENT. SHE WAS LAST HEARD FROM BY HER FAMILY ON MAY 2,1988 WHICH WAS HER BIRTHDAY.

CAUSE OF DEATH: HOMICIDE BY UNSPECIFIED MEANS.

AMENDED BY: J. H. DAVIS, M. D., CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER: 6/21/89-DJM.

MANNER: HOMICIDE DATE AUTOPSY SEP/08/88 BY CHARLES V. WETLI MD

MORTUARY: HALL, FERG., HEWITT

CVW

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY M E D I C A L E X A M I N E R D E P A R T M E N T NUMBER 1 ON BOB HOPE RD MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136 (305) 545-9400 INVESTIGATION REPORT

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CAUSE OF DEATH: PERMANENTLY UNCLASSIFIED. MAY 2,1989-DJM

MANNER: UNCLASSIFIED DATE AUTOPSY SEP/08/88 BY CHARLES V. WETLI MD

MORTUARY: HALL, FERG., HEWITT CVW

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY M E D I C A L E X A M I N E R D E P A R T M E N T NUMBER 1 ON BOB HOPE RD MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136 (305) 545-9400 INVESTIGATION REPORT

M.E. CASE NO. 88-2637 A DATE SEP/07/88

CVW

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2100 N W 179TH ST., MIAMI, FLA

PLACE OF DEATH: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA

TIME OF DEATH: FOUND 12:15PM SEP/07/88

INVESTIGATING AGENCY: METRO #458867-I-MCDERMOTT

INCIDENT LOCATION: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA AUG/00/88 UNK SCENE M.E. CHARLES V. WETLI MD

HISTORY: CVW

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THE DECEASED WAS IDENTIFIED BY FINGERPRINTS ON FILE WITH METRO-DADE POL-ICE DEPARTMENT. SHE WAS LAST HEARD FROM BY HER FAMILY ON MAY 2,1988 WHICH WAS HER BIRTHDAY.

CAUSE OF DEATH: PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

MANNER: UNCLASSIFIED DATE AUTOPSY SEP/08/88 BY CHARLES V. WETLI MD

MORTUARY: HALL, FERG., HEWITT



118.01-5 Rev 5/80

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY Office of the Medical Examiner INVESTIGATION REPORT

38-	2637
V V	1/10.5

Police Case No. 458867-1 _Age Race B Sex F NAME OF THE DECEASED: _Date of Birth ____ Address Social Security No. _____ Occupation _____ Employer _____ Place of Death MIAM Death Occurred ________ M. in the presence of ______ Found Dead 9-7 1988 12:15PM. by ANTHONY RICHARD SON Identified by Address 3470 NW 179 ST & 3025 NW 9155 Date/Time Viewed by Investigator 9-7 1988, 230AM. Medical Examiner at Scene DR. WETLI MISTORY: (What happened just prior to death and when was victim last seen alive?) _ KICHANISON WAS TAKING A SHOPPCUT ACROSS P.I. FIELD AND DISCOVERED THE DECEASED VICTIM NEAR A ·CLUMP OF TREES IN N. F SECTION OF THE FIELD Possible manner of death ____19 ____. ____M. Weapon/Cal. __ If Violent Death: Date/Time of Incident _____ Exact Location/Address of Incident AGRICULTURAL AREA MIA CENTRAL H. S. At work_____ (Specify Street, Parking Lot, Bar etc.) PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: Clothing ____ Position/Location of Body: SupINE HEAD EAST FEET WEST Consistent Body Weat: Warm: Cool Cold Rigor Mortis: None _____ Slight ____ Full ____ Decomposition: None ____ Slight ____ Advanced < Trauma: Yes____ No____ Describe wwk NAMES OF DOCTORS/MOSPITALS who attended deceased during life: Relation ____ NAME OF NEXT OF KIN: UNK _____Telephone ______Notified: Yes ____ No __ Address __ _____ Medication to M.E.: Yes ____ No ____ Valuables and Disposition -Investigating Agency MOPD Report Submitted by McDeamort



STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & REHABILITATIVE SERVICES VITAL STATISTICS

(REMAINS, UNKNOWN) 88-2637A

APPLICATION FOR BURIAL-TRANSIT PERMIT

A. (Type o		A4: JII	1	DATE M	anth Day Van
1. Name of Deceased	First	Middle	Last	DATE M OF	onth Day Year
Deceased	LINDA	DARNELL	JOHNSON		EMBER 7, 1988
2. Place of Death	City, Town	or Location	Name of (If neith	er, give street addr	ess)
County			Hosp. or FOUND S		
DADE	imaim			2nd ST. & 17t	
3. Name of Medical Certifier CHA	rles v. Wetli, M	☐ Physician Medical Exam	Addre	E RD., MIAMI,	
 Funeral Home/ Direct Disposer M 	Name IEDICAL EXAMINER (OFFICE NUMBER ONE	Address ON BOB HOPE RD.,		Number (Area Code) 505-545-2400
5. Check Appro-	a 🕱 The medic this applic	al certification has been cor ation.	mpleted and signed. A co	mpleted certificate	of death accompanies
priate	ь П		Wa	s contacted on	within 72
Box		death. He/she verified that			
		rnal cause of death, and that			will complete
	and sign th	e medical certification of ca	use of death.		
1	с 🖺 ——	THE WITTER WIT	was conta	cted on	$_{-}$. He/she verified that
//	/	LES V. WETLI, MD	, Medical	Examiner, will co	omplete and sign the
1) lai ca	// /^/	ertification.			SEPTEMBER 12, 1
6. Funeral Director/	ACTING MA M		C L 1:- A L /	D M.	
Direct Disposer	ACTING	Signature	Fla. Lic. No./I	Reg. No.	Date Signed
A five day extens would result from Disposer Report" No extension of to	filing within the normal tin will be filed with the Loca ime for filing the death of	death certificate (exclusive ne limit. If the certificate cann Il Registrar of the County in v	of weekends) has been root be filed within this extended which death occurred. Date SHPT. 1	ended time limit, a " .2, 1988 Date	nted as undue hardship Funeral Director/Direct Certificate
Subregistrar Signa	ature AAACCC	· Wurre	Issued:	Due:	
C.	AUTHORIZATIO	ON for CREMATION, D	ISSECTION or BURI	AL-AT-SEA	·
~		, Medica	al Examiner Date	<u> </u>	
or Medical Examiner	r.	, gave a	uthorization by telephone	to	
		Funeral Director/Director			
The Medical Example 1 death is required 1		e obtained before disposal l	by any of the above meth		
D.	FOR FUNE	ERAL DIRECTOR/DIRE	ECT DISPOSER USE	ONLY	
1. Date Burial-Trans	sit Permit (pink copy) wa	s filed with Local Registrar:			
2. Date Temporary	Certificate was filed with	Local Registrar:			
3. Date complete Co	ertificate was filed with L	ocal Registrar:			
		ies & dates contacted):			
-, TONOW-OP ENOUG	a continue filoro bair				
5. Funeral Director	/Direct Disposer Report f	iled: YesNo			

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FOR BURIAL—TRANSIT PERMIT FORM

Section A.

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

1. Type or print name of deceased and date of death.

- 2. Indicate place of death: County; City, Town or Location; hospital or institution (if not in hospital or institution, give street address).
- 3. Indicate the name and address of the physician or Medical Examiner who you determine is to provide the medical certification of cause of death.
- 4. Indicate name, address, and telephone number of funeral home or direct disposal establishment.
- 5. a. Check if a completed death certificate, including the completed and signed medical certification of cause of death, accompanies the pink copy of the Application for Burial—Transit Permit to the Local Registrar of the County in which death occurred. (If the completed certificate cannot be obtained in sufficient time to be filed with the pink copy of the Application, check 5b.)
 - b. Provide the name of the person contacted in an effort to obtain the name of the physician who is to complete and sign the medical certification portion of the certificate, and the date he/she was contacted. The person contacted must be either the physician or a responsible person whom you determine can speak for him/her.
 - c. Check to indicate if this is a Medical Examiner case. Give the name of the person contacted who verified that the Medical Examiner will complete and sign the medical certification of cause of death and the date contact was made.
- 6. Requires signature of applicant, Florida License/Registration number, and date application signed.

Section B.

BURIAL—TRANSIT PERMIT

Provide permit number. If it is anticipated that the certificate cannot be filed within five days from the date of death, five additional days (exclusive of weekends) may be requested and granted by checking the box provided. If this time frame cannot be met, complete and file a copy of the Funeral Director/Direct Disposer Report with the Local Registrar in the County of death and send a copy to Quality Assurance, Office of Vital Statistics. If no extension of time is requested, check appropriate box.

The Registrar or Subregistrar who grants the Burial—Transit Permit will sign and date the Permit Application. If it is not convenient for the Subregistrar to sign, it will be signed by the Local Registrar or his designee. (The signature of the Subregistrar on the Burial—Transit Permit need not be the same as the Subregistrar signature on the death certificate.) Section 382.006, Florida Statutes, requires that a Burial—Transit Permit be obtained prior to disposition or removal from the State and within five days after death. It shall be mailed or delivered to the Local Registrar of the County in which death occurred within 24 hours after issuance. NOTE: It is not necessary to wait until the Funeral Director/Direct Disposer has custody of the actual body to begin the paperwork.)

Section C.

AUTHORIZATION for CREMATION, DISSECTION or BURIAL—AT—SEA

Approval for cremation/dissection or burial-at-sea must be authorized by the Medical Examiner. Space for his approval signature and date are provided. In addition, space is provided for the name of the person obtaining telephone approval from Medical Examiner and the date such approval was obtained.

(NOTE: DO NOT HOLD UP FILING THE PINK COPY WHILE AWAITING MEDICAL EXAMINER APPROVAL.)

Section D.

FOR FUNERAL DIRECTOR/DIRECT DISPOSER USE ONLY

- Record date the Funeral Director/Direct Disposer filed the pink copy of the Burial-Transit Permit with the Local Registrar of the County in which death occurred.
- 2. If a temporary death certificate was filed with the Local Registrar of the County in which death occurred, record the date in this item.
- 3. / Record the date a completed death certificate with a completed and signed certification of cause of death was filed with the Local / Registrar of the County in which death occurred.
- 4. Funeral Director/Direct Disposer to record any follow-up activities he/she made himself/herself to obtain and file a completed death certificate with completed and signed medical certification of cause of death.
- 5. Funeral Director/Direct Disposer will complete and file a copy of the Funeral Director/Direct Disposer Report if he/she had difficulty in securing medical certification which prevented the filing of a completed death certificate by the expiration of the five-day extension (exclusive of weekends) as indicated on the Burial—Transit Permit. Record if filed or not filed and, if filed, the date it was filed.

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

CASE INFORMATION

	CYSE HALOUMY HOM	
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P5D# -	342773- LAST	Acayor 1987
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620-15°	47	Shorte Shorte

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT 1050 N.W. 19 St., Miami, FL 33136 (305) 549-7337

88-2637 M.E. Case #

CASE INFUR....

7:50 AM

time

RE: JOHNSON, LINDA DARNELL

TOB 5/2/56
564 261-33-0976

Called news



Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt 1900 N. W. 54TH STREET MIAMI, FLORIDA 33142

TELEPHONE: (305) 633-0688

M.E.

AUTHORIZATION

* Dorton Dick Up, Checksoith
I hereby designate the above-named funeral
establishment to take charge of funeral arrangements for:
and I authorize the release and removal of the remains to
said funeral establishment for the purpose of embalming.
I represent that I am the next of kin, or am acting as
an authorized agent for the next of kin.
Signed: Signed: Relationship: BROHLESS
Co-Signed:
Relationship:
WITNESS, LAND HOLDE SAME: B. 1988
FOR VERBAL (TELEPHONE) AUTHORIZATION:
Authorization from
Relationship
DateReceived by
MA-12-N Peachtree

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER MIAMI, FLORIDA

	UKnowin	PERSONAL PROPERT	M.E. CASE NO. <u>88-2637</u> DATE <u>9-7-88</u> 5-7 /e
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118.01-2

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 PHONE (305) 545-2400 FAX (305) 545-2418

INVESTIGATION REPORT

M.E. Case #: 88-2637

DATE: SEP/07/1988

TYPE: A

JOHNSON, LINDA DARNELL (AKA)

SS#:

32 YEAR(S)

BLACK

FEMALE

D.O.B. MAY/02/1956

2100 N W 179TH ST., MIAMI, FLA

PLACE OF DEATH: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA

TIME OF DEATH: FOUND

12:15PM SEP/07/1988

INVESTIGATING AGENCY: MIAMI-DADE

458867-I-M

INCIDENT LOCATION: SCHOOL YARD: N W 102ND ST & 17TH AVE., MIAMI, FLA

WETLI. CHARLES V., M.D.

ACCORDING TO INITIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION: ON SEPT. 7,1988 ABT. 12:15PM A RESIDENT OF THE AREA WAS TAKING A SHORTCUT ACROSS A FIELD IN THE REAR OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL. AT WHICH TIME HE DISCOVERED THHHE DECEASED NEAR A ROW OF TREES IN THE NORTHH EAST SECTION OF THE FIELD, USED AS THE SCHOOL AGRICULTURE CENTER. SHE WAS IN ADVANCED. STAGES OF DECOMPOSITION AND HAD NO IDENTIFICAT- ION HER PERSON WHEN FOUND. THE DECEASED WAS IDENTIFIED BY FINGERPRINTS ON FILE WITH METRO-DADE POL- ICE DEPARTMENT. SHE WAS LAST HEARD FROM BY HER FAMILY ON MAY 2,1988 WHICH WAS HER BIRTHDAY.

CAUSE OF DEATH: HOMICIDE BY UNSPECIFIED MEANS.

AMENDED BY: J. H. DAVIS, M. D.,

6/21/89-DJM.

CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER:

MANNER: HOMICIDE

AUTOPSY

SEP/08/1988

DOCTOR: WETLI, CHARLES V., M.D.

MORTUARY: HALL, FERG., HEWITT

INVESTIGATOR: WETLI, CHARLES V., M.D.

THIS REPORT MAY CONTAIN NON-VERIFIED INFORMATION AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Final Disp	position		AUTHORITY	DATE & TIME OF DISPOSITION

PROPERTY RELEASE INFORMATION

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PRINT NAME			
			•

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

CASE INFORMATION	
DATE $\frac{9/7/88}{\text{mo. day yr.}}$ $\frac{2:34m}{\text{time}}$	M.E. Case #
Lavi) Complaint DEIK	
Reg: Medical Exam	wev
NW 95 th St and 17th Come	
Rear g: Centred High	lehod
near Agricultural Center Rea	·
Homicill -	
Dr. witte advised - will respond.	J4
WAGON 3:30PM HOMICIDE	

MESSAGE CONFIRMATION SEP-07-'88 WED 15:34

TERM ID: MEDICAL EXAMINER P-9999

TEL NO: 385 545 2400 EXT3418

NO. DATE ST.TIME TOTAL TIME ID DEPT CODE OK NG

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DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

CASE INFORMATION

78-61 = 19-86	2:00 PM	88-2657
mo. day yr.	time	M.E. Case #
TELEPHONE MESSAGE Nº 002679	DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE RD. MIAMI, FLORIDA-33136	
DATE CALL RECEIVED TIME	MESSAGE FOR J+DG	·
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V. A. Medical Center	RE: 88-2657 Fred Kneeht	1
HONE 324-3117 AREA CODE RETURN CALL, DATE, TIME		
WILL CALL AGAIN, DATE, TIME CALL TAKEN BY		
Zin	DAY-TIMERS RE-ORDER No. 3214 — Printed in USA	
- She manted to	know if case was done-	
I said pending	, Tex.	

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DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

į	CAS	SE INFORMATION	
DATE $2 - 20 - 88$ mo. day yr.	Soh	nson, Sende	88-263) M.E. Case #
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DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT

CLASSIFICATION OF PENDING CASE

(THIS FORM IS TO BE USED BY A MEDICAL EXAMINER WHEN A PENDING CASE IS TO BE CLASSIFIED. MAKE CERTAIN THAT THERE IS AN APPROVAL BY EITHER THE CHIEF OR DEPUTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER BEFORE COMPLETING THE NECESSARY FORMS AND CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY THE STATE.)

COMPLETING THE NECESSART FOR	IMS AND CENTIFICATES	AEGUINED DI	IIIL OIAILI	
M.E. Case # 88-2637	Name (if known) _	Johnson	Linda	D.
Cause of Death: (Item 24)	Homicide by	unspecis	ied Mean.	\$
Due to:				
Due to:				
Contributory Cause:				
Manner of Death: Homeile (Item 27a)	Angust unde, 196	- Time W	mle	
How Incident Occurred: (Item 27d) Found about	udoned, decomposed,	apparently v	wleafed.	
1000 de		na) - for alkun of	toxialowy 19 10431	s ped; cel

Medical Examiner

M - D - Y Date

Approved by J F Scares

M - D - Y

118.01-18 Rev. 4/85

CASE REVIEW J. H. DAVIS, M.D.

NAME	: Johnson Lindu ME No.: 88-2637 cvn
	ace: 32/B Police: MDPD
	nd: 9/7/88 Pulice No.: 458817 - I milarmit
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***************************************	Already Classified as Homicide	
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	89-243 Spives A	·
	89-906 Williams, A	
	89-997 Hernandez, B	
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	87-2006 Samuels, w	·
_	87.2017 Taylor, M	
	87-2633 Rozier E	
	88-1055 Gray, S	
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	89-323 Stewart, 12	
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	Decomposed or inscet aftered hodies -	including shetchers
1.	\$6-2512 Turner, T	
2	88. 2596 Henderson, J	
3	88 2637 Johnson, L	
4	88 3118 R. 1/e, K	
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6	89 883 Bodie, C	
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DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT, Miami, Florida

SCENE INVESTIGATION

DATE: 9/8/88

LOCATION: N.W.17 Ave. & 102 St., in a field

TIME ARRIVED AT SCENE: Approx. 2:30 p.m.

POLICE AGENCY: MDPD

LEAD INVESTIGATOR: Det. McDermott

INITIAL INFORMATION:

The scene is located behind Central High School in a field utilized by the Agricultural Vocational School. Apparently, an individual was taking a short cut through the field and discovered the remains of a woman.

OBSERVATIONS OF SURROUNDINGS:

The area where the body is found is breezy and shaded by large pine trees. She is lying supine on a bed of pine needles. By her left arm and head is a portion of a plastic trash bag. Shoes are also nearby. At the head is plain pink tanktop with blue letters spelling, "Body Shop". Above her head are pink pants that are inside out. A match book and bobby pin are found inside the pockets of the pant. No other clothing is found anywhere at the scene. Nearby is a tree with a portion of a shirt which has been tied to it and also the knot contains a portion of a trash bag similar to the one found near the body. Just below this are electric cords also hanging from the portion of the tree and these are consistent with ligatures. Nearby is a clearing with a chair and several tires and some of the tires have apparently been moved. Cleaning material for tires are also evident in the area and these all appear fresh.

OBSERVATIONS OF VICTIM (S):

The individual is lying supine and is completely mummified and nearly skeletonized. The teeth are prominent and what appears to be a central incisor tooth is missing but this appears to be premortem and not postmortem. Skin slippage of the hands and feet is evident and the speciments are turned over the the police department for subsequent delivery to the identification section. No injuries to the body are found. A few insect larvae are near the body and on it.

SCENE IMPRESSION (INCLUDING PROBABLE CAUSE AND MANNER OF DEATH):

Probable rape-homicide, approximately 3 months postmortem interval

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT, Miami, Florida

NOTE: On September 9, 1988, Detectives McDermott and Romanti indicated she had been identified via the prints. She had an extensive record for prostitution but this apparently stopped in August of 1987. She was last seen alive on the 1st of May, 1988. She is a known drug abuser, particularly with crack cocaine.

NOTE: The foregoing is of a speculative nature and subject to modification pending additional information and investigation.

CHARLES V. WETLI, M.D.

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

CVW:mu

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT

CLASSIFICATION OF PENDING CASE

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M.E. Case # 38-2637 Name (if known) Linda Lishinson.

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Cause of Death: (Item 24)	Due to:	PERMAN	BALLY	Anciss	PIFICA	
	Due to:					
Contrib	outory Cause:					
Manner of Death: (Item 27a)	UNKNOW	N.				
How Incident Occu (Item 27d)	ırred:					
Rationale for Class	ification:					
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•		Medical Examin	er Comment	<u>-</u>	# 19 M - D - Date	<i>89</i>
Approved by						

118.01-18 Rev. 4/85

D Date

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

DATE 09 08 88 yr.

MIAMI HERAL

time

8-265/

M.E. Case #

Woman's body found at Central High

Someone taking a shortcut through Central High's physical education field found the nude body of woman Wednesday afternoon, Metro-Dade police said.

ro-Dade police said.
Linda Johnson, 32, address unknown, had been lying under Australian pines on the north end of the field for about two months, said homicide Sgt. John Methvin.

The cause of death will not be determined until an autopsy is completed, but police suspect foul play.

DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD, MIAMI, FL 33136-1133 (305) 545-2400

CASE INFORMATION

DATE mo. dav time"

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1989

THE MIAMI HERALD

SECTION B

Dead women had links to rapist

By DONNA GEHRKE Heraid Stall Writer

Where Charles Henry Williams went, women died.

Four were killed near his family home in Overtown. A fifth was a neighbor. Four more died in a North Dade prostitution zone where the tall baby-faced 32-year-old used to wan-der. Two others were found just outside the area. And two were murdered in a Browns-ville neighborhood where he used to smoke

crack.
Williams tells police it's coincidence.
Homicide detectives think it's a pattern.
Police say the convicted rapist is a suspect in these 13 slayings and five others, which date back more than two years. They called a press conference 2½ months ago to announce their suspicion. But they haven't yet charged



Convicted rapist Charles Henry Williams, left, says connections to the dead women are a coincidence. Police see a pattern, but they haven't charged Williams with murder.

Williams with murder.

The killings stopped once Williams was jailed last April on two unrelated rape charg-

"He's the best thing we've got," said Metro homicide Sgt. Frank Wesolowski, who

heads his department's investigation into 11 of the deaths. "He is the No. 1 suspect."
In recent weeks, The Herald has found more links to Williams and the deaths. Court records and interviews with police, witnesses and victims' families show:

At least three victims were seen with Williams on the day they died.

■ Two women who pressed the current rape charges against Williams say he tried to choke them to death in Brownsville — the same neighborhood where two victims died, within the same few weeks.

Another woman filed attempted-murder charges will be a same to the same few weeks.

charges against Williams for a choking attack just hours after she had introduced him to one of her friends — who later was found murdenal.

Williams frequented the same places a crack den, a prostitution zone — that several of the victims did.

Williams is scheduled to go to trial next week on the two rape charges. The trial might

PLEASE SEE WILLIAMS, 3R

3 victims were seen with rapist the day they died

WILLIAMS, FROM 1B

be postponed to give Williams' new court-appointed attorney, Howard Landau, a chance to prepare a de-

fense. quittal for Williams in a 1986 rape trial, won't comment on the case or the homicide investigation. Nor will he allow his client to speak to The

In statements to police, Williams has denied killing the women.

Born in Georgia, he grew up in a neatly kept Overtown townhouse with his mother, brother and sis-

ters.
By 1986, he had been accused of seven rapes — including assaults on two 15-year-old schoolgirls - and was profiled in The Herald as a career criminal who knew how to plea bargain and beat the system.

His accusers describe the same modus operandi: He starts with sweet talk and suddenly turns vicious as he chokes his victims unconscious.

Two years ago when Williams was out of jail, young women started dy-ing mysteriously in his Overtown neighborhood. They were found almost nude, their legs spread and no visible trauma.

Miami cops were puzzled. Initial autopsies turned up a new theory later debunked by Medical Examiner Joe Davis - that the women died because they combined sex and co-



VICTIM: Brenda Hernandez was seen with Williams the day she was strangled.

caine once too often.

They were well-known in the Overtown neighborhood as heavy crack-users.

So was Williams.

"He'd say, 'I've got money. Let's get drugs,' " remembered neighbor Audrey Salles.

One of Williams' teen-age neighbors took him up on the offer in April 1988 - and was found dead hours later, said the victim's best friend. Aida Rodriguez, 17.

She said Williams offered her and to Edwards 16-year-old Sharmanita Grays "some weed" when they went to the Bay Point Motel. 3530 Biscayne Blvd. Later, Rodriguez left her friend with a heavily perspiring. crack-using Williams who wouldn't

That's the last time Rodriguez saw Grays alive. Her body was found hours later sprawled, legs apart and nearly nude, on a stairwell at the motel.

let her back into the room.

Rodriguez told Miami homicide investigators her suspicions. Miami police have since refused to discuss the case.

Since then, two other victims were seen with Williams on their last day.

In October 1988, Williams sought sex from prostitute Erica Edwards on the night she died near the hooker zone on Northwest 79th Street. said witness Beverly Gunder James.

She said Williams, identifying himself as "Tony," approached her on Oct. 22, 1988, at the Tropicana Bar. 1057 NW 79th St.

"He came out of the bushes." lames said in a telephone interview. "He asked me where I was going, and I said to the bar. He asked if I 'dated' [slang for hooking], and I said no. He asked if I smoked cocaine and I said no. He asked me if I knew anyone who did.

"I said yes — Erica."

She said she then introduced him

'I said, 'Erica, this is Tony, He seems like a nice guy. Be nice to him.' "

The next morning, Edwards' body was discovered in a nearby field. She had been dead for hours.

That same day, James told police. Williams grabbed her from behind and choked her. "He picked me off the ground and put a hook on me and I couldn't spring loose," she said.

"The man was on top of me." she added, "I was on my stomach.

A'neighbor saw the attack and scared him off, she said.

Five days later - and after three more women had been found dead in the area - James spotted Williams at a friend's house near the hooker

Metro police arrested him there on attempted second-degree murder charges.

He was released in early December after prosecutors dropped the case. They couldn't find James. She moved to Oklahoma soon after the assanilt.

Five months later. Williams was seen with victim Brenda Hernandez on the day she was strangled in an open field in Brownsville, police told her mother, Mercedes Hernandez.

The victim had lived just a few blocks from a crack den near I & I Groceries at 2656 NW 46th St. where Williams hung out.

Two other victims, Barbara Ann

Black and Barbara Lattimore, hung out at the same crack den, several witnesses said. "He liked the girls," remembered store owner John Ben-

Williams was arrested at the crack den when he tried to run from detectives investigating Hernandez's murder.

While canvassing the neighborhood for witnesses, detectives ran into a woman who said Williams had raped her in the same neighborhood two weeks earlier.

She said she was initially fooled by his appearance. "A clean-cut guy," she noted.

She agreed to Williams' offer: \$10. two cocaine rocks and half a pound of marijuana for sex. The next thing she knew, he was choking her and forcing her to have sex.

"The man chokes you like he intends to kill you. It's not a choke where he's playing with you at all. He wants to kill you." she said in a

"The look on the guy's face - it totally changed from that nice personality, nice gentleman, hardworking gentleman to a damn mani-

ac," she testified.

Metro detectives charged Williams with rane.

Within a week, Miami police followed with another rape charge. A woman from Brownsville accused Williams of choking and raping her in March

Since early April, Williams has been in jail, lately in solitary.

"He's there for his own protection based on his notoriety." said Dade Iail Lt. Jim Wood.

Williams passes his days watching TV or talking to another prisoner -Charlie Street, accused killer of two Metro officers.

Williams has impressed Lt. Wood with his politeness and quiet demeanor. "He seems calm and complacent."

By DONNA GEHRKE
Herald Staff Writer Star Teal and Teal
The Charles Henry Williams, already
the prime suspect in the Slayings of
18 inner-city, women; has been
linked to the murder of another; a
20 ye ar - old
who, like three
other victims,
was seen with
him on her last,
day alive.
Sandra Slacks
son, only four
foot eight and 84
pounds



onvicted rapist linked to 19th slaying

liams, a baby-faced former mainte--nance worker, may be responsible for the 19 slayings - and perhaps more - because the methods of murder are strikingly similar. We've never had this many that

seemed to fall into a pattern," said Dr. Joseph Davis, Dade's medical examiner.

"Williams, 33, has been in the Dade" County Jail for the past six months but has not been charged in any of the murders. He was charged with two counts of rape unrelated to the slayings. Metro and Miami homicide detectives say they don't have

enough proof - even though he first murder came under investigation more than a year ago.

Williams has admitted to police ... that he knew some of the victims, but he has steadfastly denied killing . anyone.

The slayings stopped once Williams was jailed in early April on the rape charges.

The first of the 19 victims - 18 of them black and one Hispanic was found dead in July 1987.

Jackson was victim No. 15. The bodies of four other women were found before Williams was arrested in early April. Miami police did not disclose Jackson's connection to Williams and the other homicide victims until detectives recently gave depositions in court.

Jackson, a former cook in a sandbecause she hated her given name. "She was my sweet baby," said her boyfriend Kirk Stevens, the father of her 2-year-old, son, also named Kirk.

Like many of the other 18 victims, Jackson was a drug addict "doing tricks for crack." her family told

desperately, trying to break her streets as "Bumper" or "Bump."

crack habit, said Vincent Lawrence. a distant relative who unsuccessful Tony Rodrigues, Miami homicide gram for her. "I couldn't find any-detective." And the said.

Tony Rodrigues, Miami homicide detective. It is a said and the said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a soner because she didn't think offigures are usually done to connect rapists.

Like many of the 18 other victims, Jackson was found nude and his yard found Jackson's strangled hookers or prostitutes, McMahon ment body next door in an overgrown lot said in a deposition.

Homicide detectives believe will hook of the recent brown cost covered her nude body. Trace back to williams any body that said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a said she hadn't gone to police ids found on the victims. The tests a sa Her shoes were found nearby.

In the next 11 days, four more bodies of women were found. Two of them had been badly beaten and.

strangled, as Jackson was. On March 26, the body of Angela Williams, 23, was found in an open? field at Northwest 21st Avenue and 68th Street. The killer had beaten her face, breaking her jaw and teeth:

A week later, in another vacant lot at Northwest 23rd Avenue and 46th Street, children found the body of Brenda Hernandez, 24, whose chest and neck were battered like Jackson's.

Williams was picked up near the Hernandez murder site by homicide detectives a day after the body was

As in Jackson's case, witnesses saw Williams with Hernandez on the last day of her life.

Jailers later found scratches on Williams' back and fresh bite marks on his penis.

Metro homicide detective Joseph McMahon said Williams readily talked to homicide detectives.

Investigators said Williams told them he had been with some of the victims — but they were alive when he left them.

He said people in the neighborhood who say he is the murderer are picking on him. They didn't like him, . Williams complained.

wich shop, went by the name Sonia ... From canvassing Brownsville after the murders, police found at least two women who said they had survived attacks by Williams. The investigators and the alleged victims described the attacks in recent depositions.

One, an admitted prostitute, told McMahon that she had been raped investigators, and choked to unconsciousness investigators her murder, she was March by a man known on the

her in a choke hold, putting his arm in gues wouldn't talk about the genetic around her neck," Miami homicide tests. "We're following up every available to us that can it position. "She said that he had her assist us in these investigations." he under control." She couldn't get said.

Meanwhile, police remain closes, solve at least one of these cases, mouthed about the homicide investigation. "Serial killers don't stop killing," gation.

McMahon showed her a Polaroid vestigators are now conducting go-of Williams.

That's him, she said.

That's him, she said.

neighborhood on March 18, six days blood and salive samples from Wil-before Jackson's body was found. liams in the base of the liams o

away from him! The harder she ! Rodriguez and John Farrell, Metwould try to push away, the tighter for chief of detectives said officers the choke would get around her have pursued dozens of leads with neck."

The two women pressed rape counting on the breakthrough they were charges against Williams. He is "Unfortunately we haven't been

charges against winiams. He is "Omortunatery, we naven t been scheduled to go to trial Nov. 13. Built able to put together anything of sigther trial is likely to be postponed "inflicance," Rodrigues said. "It's just for a third time. Prosecutor Dennis" a shame, it's a tragedy. I really feel Siegel is planning to be out of the that somebody out there saw or state that week to attend a seminar! heard something that could help us

Williams' defense attorney, How-, they die or they move somewhere, and Landau, believes homicide in and continue.

OR PRINT PERMANENT BLACK BIK	LOCAL FILE NO.		CER	TIFICATE OF DEA	ATH	88-2637	7
HANDBOOK FOR	DECEDENT-NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	SEX	DATE OF PEATH (Mo. Day. Yr.)	
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1	7b. MIAMI		School	YArd: O2nd Street & :	17th Aven ue	OP/Emer. Rm. Inpatient(S)	oecity.)
i.	STATE OF BIRTH (If not in U.S.A. name country)	CITIZEN OF WH	IAT COUNTRY MARR	ED, NEVER MARRIED. D. DIVORCED (Specify)	SURVIVING SPOUSE (# w	ife, give malden name)	
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	15. WE	SLEY	JOHNSO		FRANLIE	LEAN EDWARDS	
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	(Signature and Title		UR OF DEATH	Signatur Signatur DATE SK	e and Title)>	HOUR OF DEATH	
<u> </u>	20b.	20c		M (경로 21b. A	Pril 20.1989	21c. Unknown	м
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	24. IMMEDIATE CAUSE	JENTER ONLY ON	E CAUSE PER LINE FOR		/ 10/ 1200.	interval between onset and	death
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要		CONDITIONS—Condition	s contributing to death bu	t not related to cause PART		AUTOPSY CASE REFERRED TO ME	DICAL
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revious editions)						dim	

THE DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT, Miami, Florida
Name..JOHNSON, LINDA DARNELL.9:30 a.m..9/8/88....Case No. 88-2637

CAUSE OF DEATH:

A On A Share

CHARLES V. WETLI, M.D. Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

Date:_____

CVW:mu

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT Number One on Bob Hope Road, Miami, Florida 33136

TOXICOLOGY REPORT

UNKNOWN

M.E. CASE NO. 88-2637

SUBSTANCE

SPECIMEN

RESULT

COCAINE

LUNG

UNDETECTED

Charles V. Wetli, M.D. Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

Date 5-2-89

THE DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT, Miami, Florida
Name..JOHNSON, LINDA DARNELL.9:30 a.m..9/8/88....Case No. 88-2637

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The body is that of a 5 foot 7-1/2 inch, Negro female, totalling 36 pounds. The body is extensively mummified. No injuries or distinguishing features are evident. Dentition is full and a space is evident anteriorly on the upper jaw. This is not associated with a tooth socket. Skin is tough and leathery. No distinguishing marks or features are found anywhere on the body.

Radiologic examination fails to disclose any foreign objects. No distinguishing fractures or skeletal features are found radiographically.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The internal viscera are entirely absent. The only remnants present being portions of the lungs which appear as shrunken masses of tough, leathery, black tissue. The muscle tissue is likewise virtually gone. No fractures or other injuries are found. The brain is totally absent and the skull and calvarium are free of any fractures.

Examination of the leathery stringy structures remaining in the neck reveals portions of the hyoid bone and thyroid cartilage but these do not appear fractured or abnormal in any way.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS:

1) Extensive mummification

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

CVW:mu

CASE REVIEW J. H. DAVIS, M.D.

NAINE Johnson, Linda	M.E. No. 88.2637
AGE/RACE 32 B/F	POLICE MDPD
DATE FOUND 9/7/08	POLICE NUMBER 456 867-I
COORDINATES NIN 17 AV 102 ST.	PETECTIVE Par Darmott
SITE CHARACTER Field	
POSITION Small 1994 Special	JNITIAL CLASSIFICATION
CLOTH ING/COVER / M	SUBSEQUENT CLASSIFICATION
PRESERVATION STATUS IN	-> tame by her per process
PHOTOS: syes	
Lips /Ann	· G. real
Ext. Neek	
Int. Neuk	
BITE IMARKS (IF Applicable)	
OTHER SERTINENT MA	
INJURY of Above NOT PHOTOG	RAIHED:
COCAINE-BLOOD	
-Other Ling 5	
Alcohol	
Other Drng	
Rape kit status	
EVIDEN	CE FOR NON-HIMICIDE
HOMICIDE	
Muce	
Pathonic equational accordance	

FROM

William S. Miller FINGERPRINT TECH. II METRO-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

88-2637

The fingerprints obtained from the deceased ME# <u>88-</u>	2637	·····	have be	en
identified with fingerprints of NAME Linda Darne	11 Joh	nson		,
TAGE Names and Tamala and F/0/F6			342773	
on file with the METRO-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT, Case				

THEM TIT TOWITON DECITOR

MEDICAL EXAMINERS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

RECE	IVED BY william Mille	r DAT	E 9/7/88	_TIME 5:30 PM
ASSI	GNED TO William Mille	rDAT	E <u>9/7/88</u>	TIME 5:30 PM
ME#	88-2637	MDPI	D CASE# 458867 I	
DECE	ASED NAME Johnson, (LAST)	Linda (FIRS:	Darnell	(MIDDLE)
DOR .	, ,			
		SEX Female		ro
SS#	261-33-0976	TYPE CASE Homici	de Inv.	
	BODY PRINTED AT ME OF	FICE	DATE	TIME
	PRINTS PICKED UP FROM	ME OFFICE	DATE	TIME
XX	FINGERPRINTS BROUGHT	TO ID	DATE 9/7/88	TIME ^{5:30 PM}
MDPD:	IDENTIFIED WITH MDPD 342773	RECORD XXX CRIN	1 U III	NT TRAFFIC
	SEARCHED NEGATIVE MDP	D FILE	DATE 18 U IOI	TIME
	IDENTIFIED WITH MUNIC	IPAL RECORD	AGENCY	CONTROL#
	SEARCHED NEGATIVE MUN	ICIPAL RECORDS	MIAMI M	IIAMI BEACH
रूक्त	DEMEGRATIVE NOMEDERS IN	(A)(D) (A)		
XXX	DETECTIVE NOTIFIED, N			
	ME OFFICE NOTIFIED, N	AME	DATE	TIME
	FINGERPRINTS SENT TO	FDLE VIA POLICE F	FAX DATE	TIME
	FINGERPRINTS MAILED T	O FDLE	DATE	TIME ·
	FINGERPRINTS SENT TO	FBI VIA POLICE FA	X DATÈ .	TIME #
	FINGERPRINTS SENT TO	BROWARD VIA POLIC		
	WARRANTS CHECK IDENTIFICATION MEMO P	REPARED	DATE	TIME
	ENTS: The outer skin l	Layers were submi	tted for processi	ng.
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			The state of the s	
			I.o.,,	N With Milk 18

METRO-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROPERTY BECEIF				METRO-DADE POLICE CASE NO.			NO.	
				Ţ	4588	67-I		
INVENTORY NO. Page of								
DATE-TIME	IMPOUNDED		EAU LOCATOR CODE					
	X	OTHER DEPT. PR	OPERTY LOCATION AN	3				
ADDRESS V	VHERE PROPE	RTY IMPOUNDED (Give	exact location where p	roperty was located.)	FOR PROPERTY AI	TYPE OF CASE	EAU USE ONLY	
NW/	0257	417 AUE	CENT.	4.5. FIE	20	Homic		
DISCOVERE	D BY (Name)	~/	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	TELE	PHONE NO.	
OWN		VICTIM	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	TELE	PHONE NO.	
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□ STOLEN	PROPERTY UND PROPER	TRIAL EV		HOMICIDE PROBA		SECURITY STO	RAGE	
ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	DESC	RIPTION (Itemize curren	cy by denomination)		Currency Only Total Face Value	PROPERTY BUREAU ONLY	
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I hereby acknowledge that the above list represents all property taken from my possession and that I have received a copy of this receipt. I hereby acknowledge that the above list represents all property impounded by me in the official performance duty as a Departy Sheriff/Law Enforcement Officer						rformance of		
				Lead Investigator/Unit Lead I				
(Print and S	• .	ENOP DUPEAU ACC		Impounding Officer	10125	///	(Print and Sign)	
	THE PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE BUREAU MAY BE CONTACTED AT AREA CODE 305-547-7291				COE	<i>V-</i> /-	Badge Number	
For Property and Evidence Bureau Use Only								
RECEIVED B	Y PRINT		URE AND BADGE NO.	REASON Exan		DATE AND TIME つらいナ&&		
RECEIVED BY				REASON	DATE AND TIME RECEIVED			
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